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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,947	10/31/2003	Nobuyuki Nonaka	SHO-0047	8932

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EXAMINER

SHAH, MILAP

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3714

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/10/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/697,947

Applicant(s)

NONAKA, NOBUYUKI

Examiner

Milap Shah

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/12/07 & 4/26/07.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 6-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Specifically, amended claims 6-8 have added that gate lines are wired in the y direction and information lines are wired in the x direction. On the contrary, the specification appears to support the opposite, where gate lines are wired in the x or horizontal direction and information lines are connected in the y or vertical direction. The Examiner cannot locate a passage or figure in the originally filed specification and drawings to support the claimed arrangement. Therefore, the claims are rejected for introducing new matter. For Examination purposes, the Examiner, using the specification as a guideline, assumes the amended language simply includes a typographical error in which the x and y directions for the two types of lines were inadvertently swapped.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Liang et al. (U.S.

Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0016318).

Examiner Note: The new claims appear to be claiming the same limitations as previous recitations of independent claim 1, and thus, the previous actions detailed explanations are incorporated herein. Especially the explanation in the previous actions regarding the claimed image display and claimed gaming device having the image display, in which the Examiner pointed out the intended use for the image display is in a gaming machine if so desired.

Thus, for patentability, claims 6 & 8 simplify to the limitations of the display unit.

Claims 6 & 8: Liang et al. disclose the same invention including a display unit having a plurality of pixels arranged in a matrix extending in an x direction and a y direction perpendicular to the x direction to form an xy plane (figure 3 or 5), each pixel including a first pixel unit and a second pixel unit disposed adjacent to the first pixel unit (figure 3, see a single pixel unit is made up of two sub-pixels or what is considered a first pixel unit and second pixel unit adjacent to the first pixel unit; see a similar layout in figure 5), each one of the first and second pixels units having a first pixel electrode operative to display a first color and a second pixel electrode operative to display a second color different from the first color with the first and second pixel electrodes being arranged in a serial manner relative to each other in an identical manner for each pixel (clearly seen in figure 3 or 5, where in figure 3 three pixel electrodes are used for the three colors of each pixel unit, and figure 5 two pixel electrodes are used for the two colors of each pixel unit; also note the electrodes are

arranged in a serial manner across and an identical manner for each pixel), wherein, when at least one pixel is emerged, the same-color pixel electrodes of the at least one pixel are emerged simultaneously (paragraphs 0017 & 0020-0021). Liang et al. also disclose gate lines (figure 3[scan lines 46]) wired in the x direction and connected to a scanning signal driver and information lines (figure 3[transmission lines 48]) wired in the y direction and connected to an information signal driver; wherein the gate lines and the information lines are orthogonal in condition of being insulated mutually (figures 3-4 and column 3, lines 16-35, such that the scan lines in the x direction are inherently orthogonal to the transmission lines in the y direction at least based on figure 3; see also figure 4 which shows the lines are insulated mutually).

Claims 7 & 9: Liang et al. disclose the pixels are arranged in a matrix in an “xy plane”, and as seen in figures 3 or 5, the pixel electrodes of the same color are arranged in the y direction and the same pattern is continuously arranged in the x direction to form a stripe (figures 3 or 5).

Claim 10: Liang et al. disclose a possible intended use of the pixeling method is in a “highly transmissive” liquid crystal display (paragraph 0015; note “on a game board” is considered intended use).

Claims 11 & 12: Liang et al. disclose the pixel electrodes for the same color included in a pair of pixel units a and b respectively are connected on a one-to-two relationship (figures 4A and 4B show that each pixel units a and b are connected to the gate lines and transmission lines via a single connection for the both pixel units a and b, thus, the electrodes are connected on a one-to-two relationship).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed September 5, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. It appears the amendments are based upon amended language, which was found in the art of record relied upon in the prior office action, thus, a response to arguments is incorporated within the updated rejections above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Milap Shah whose telephone number is (571) 272-1723. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on (571) 272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Robert Pezzuto
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3714

/MBS/